

Books of the Week

For the editorial information of our readers, books received for review since last week's issue are listed. For convenient purchase of any U. S. book in print, send a remittance to cover retail price (postage will be paid) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

CONFLICT AND MOOD: Factors Affecting Stability of Response—Patricia Kendall—*Free Press*, 182 p., \$3.50. A study of what it is that causes shifts in public opinion or attitudes toward public questions.

THE EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS OF CHILDREN: A Guide for Parents—Harry Joseph and Gordon Zern—*Crown*, 310 p., \$3.75. Written in answer to requests for information. Parents often fear the problems of child raising, the authors explain, partly because with our children we relive our own childhood fears, phantasies and unresolved problems. Information will often dispel such fears.

EPICS OF SALVAGE: Wartime Feats of the Marine Salvage Men in World War II—David Masters—*Little, Brown*, 234 p., \$3.50. An authority on diving and salvage tells some romantic stories of the wealth recovered from Davy Jones' locker.

FINGERPRINTS: Fifty Years of Scientific Crime Detection—Douglas G. Browne and Alan Brock—*Dutton*, 260 p., illus., \$3.50. This book is intended for the lover of detective fiction. Although scientific crime detection with fingerprints is relatively recent, the Chinese for many centuries have used the Emperor's thumb print on state papers to insure authenticity. Prints were also used for signatures of illiterates.

MAN ABOVE HUMANITY: A History of Psychotherapy—Walter Bromberg with foreword by Winifred Overholser—*Lippincott*, 342 p., illus., \$5.75. A history of the attempt by man to help his fellows in distress, from the ancient medicine men and monks to today's specialists.

NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES: Containing Descriptions of the Articles Which Stand Accepted by the Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association on January 1, 1954—Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry—*Lippincott*, 609 p., \$2.65. An innovation in this edition is a list of drugs omitted since the previous edition and a list of new drugs added.

PRINCIPLES OF GENERAL ECOLOGY—Angus M. Woodbury—*Blakiston*, 503 p., illus., \$6.00. Designed primarily as a college text, but intended also to be of interest to workers in the field and to laymen.

THE SOCIAL FUNCTION OF ART—Radhakamal Mukerjee—*Philosophical Library*, 280 p., illus., \$10.00. This interpretation of art by the head of the department of economics and sociology at the University of Lucknow, India, is illustrated by lovely Indian works of art.

THE STEEL SKELETON: Volume I, Elastic Behaviour and Design—J. F. Baker—*Cambridge University Press*, 206 p., illus., \$8.50. Summarizing the work of the Steel Structures Research Committee of Great Britain, set up to make possible changes in building design that use the unusual qualities of steel more advantageously.

THE STRUCTURES AND REACTIONS OF THE AROMATIC COMPOUNDS—G. M. Badger—*Cambridge University Press*, 456 p., illus., \$11.50. Devoted to this whole group of compounds. Nearly all dyestuffs are aromatic as are most of the common drugs and explosives. For graduate students and chemists.

STUDIES IN THE SCOPE AND METHOD OF "THE AUTHORITARIAN PERSONALITY"—Richard Christie and Marie Jahoda, Eds.—*Free Press*, Continuities in Social Research, 279 p., \$4.50. A critical study of a major social science research report which, two of the authors state, is rivalled only by "The American Soldier" and the Kinsey reports in scope and influence. The "Authoritarian Personality" began as a study of anti-Semitism but widened greatly.

TRANSIENT ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATING-CURRENT MACHINERY: An Application of the Method of Symmetrical Components—Waldo V. Lyon—*Technology Press of MIT and Wiley*, 310 p., illus., \$7.00. Showing how the method of symmetrical components can be used to determine the transient behavior of polyphase machines under different operating conditions.

WILDCAT STRIKE—Alvin W. Gouldner—*Antioch Press*, 179 p., \$3.00. From a detailed study of one spontaneous walkout at a mine and factory of the General Gypsum Company, the author draws some conclusions and tries to develop a theory of group tensions for use by all those faced with industrial strife.

Science News Letter, June 19, 1954

GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Register Lists 215,000 by Mid-1955

► BY THE middle of next year Uncle Sam will have a register of about 195,000 scientists and 20,000 engineers for use in event of war and for statistical studies.

The National Science Foundation has just arranged with the American Chemical Society to begin registering 65,000 chemists. The Engineers Joint Council in New York is selecting 20,000 leaders from the nation's estimated 500,000 engineers for a "finder's list" to locate them for special projects.

Building upon the experience of World War II, ten professional societies and associations are now working on the National Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel, which they will keep up to date for immediate use in an emergency. In addition to the chemists and engineers, 50,000 biologists, 14,000 veterinarians, 18,000 geologists, 11,000 psychologists, 15,000 physicists, 10,000 meteorologists and 12,000 mathematicians will be included.

Science News Letter, June 19, 1954

MARINE BIOLOGY

Breed Oysters for Special Characteristics

► OYSTERS BRED for special characteristics, as cattle, hogs and horses are bred, are now believed possible as a result of an experiment at the Virginia Fisheries Laboratory, Gloucester Point, Va.

Successful artificial spawning of oysters and their larval development to the setting stage under artificial conditions has been achieved by Dr. Jay D. Andrews, assisted by Dr. Victor L. Loosanoff of Milford, Conn. This is the first time this has been done in Virginia, Dr. Andrews reports.

Oysters that grow rapidly and reach maturity a year or two earlier than the average commercial oyster now does is one possibility foreseen by Dr. Andrews. Oysters bred to resist disease are another.

Biologists throughout the world have maintained that it is possible, through hybridization, to produce special oysters to meet special needs. Investigations leading to a solution of the many problems involved in producing oysters artificially are being made not only at the Virginia Fisheries Laboratory but at several other laboratories in this country and other parts of the world.

Science News Letter, June 19, 1954

CLIMATOLOGY

Redwoods, Volcanoes Once Covered Nevada

► NEVADA TODAY is a land of barren deserts and rocky mountains, but a geological survey shows that 14,000,000 years ago it was covered with redwoods and many volcanoes were active in the area.

Dr. Daniel Axelrod, University of California at Los Angeles geologist, made the survey.

Like flowers pressed between pages of a book, plant leaves pressed between masses of rock tell the story. From these fossil plants and the rocks in which they are found, Dr. Axelrod has been able to piece together an account of Nevada's distant past.

At that time, the Pacific Northwest was covered with hardwood forests like those of the Mississippi Valley today. Coastal southern California was covered with subtropical forests, and today's southern deserts were oak and pine woodlands.

During this era, Nevada had vegetation similar to that now found on the southwestern flanks of the Sierra Nevada where redwood and pines mingle with oaks and chaparral. The region had an annual rainfall of 25 to 30 inches. Drainage was westward to the ocean. Today most of Nevada drains into low areas within the state.

After the Sierra was formed, moist, westerly winds, which carried rain to the Nevada area, were blocked. This and other factors caused the forests to die out and the region became a desert.

Science News Letter, June 19, 1954

Swimming's more fun

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